LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

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Tuesday, February 3, 2004/Magha 14, 1925 (Saka)

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The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

(*Interruptions*)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

Title: References made to the passing away of Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra, member 8th Lok Sabha on 11.1.2004 and Shri M. Arunachalam, member, 6th to 11th Lok Sabha, on 21.1.2004, respectively.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, namely, Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra and Shri M. Arunachalam.

Dr. Prabhat Kumar Mishra was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989 representing the Janjgir Parliamentary constituency of Madhya Pradesh, which is now in Chhatisgarh.

A medical practitioner and agriculturist by profession, he was President, *Chhatra Nagrik Samiti*, Mungeli, Bilaspur; and District Reorganisation Committee, Mungeli. He was also a Member of the *Shola Vikash Samiti* of all schools of Mungeli; and *Rajyastar Bhoomi Vikas* Committee, Bhopal. He also served as Director, *Rajyastar Bhoomi Vikas* Bank, Bhopal and *Bhoomi Vikas* Bank, Bilaspur.

A devoted social worker he was also a Member of the *Bhoodan* Committee, Mungeli.

He worked relentlessly for promoting communal harmony and provision of drinking water facilities in villages and free medical aid to the poor. He was also involved in the promotion of folk art and culture and development of villages through *"Shramdan"*.

A sports enthusiast, Dr. Mishra organised many sporting events at village level.

Dr. Mishra passed away on 11 January, 2004 at Mungeli, Bilaspur at the age of 67.

Shri M. Arunachalam was a Member of the Sixth to Eleventh Lok Sabhas from 1977 to 1997 representing the Tenkasi Parliamentary constituency of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Arunachalam was an able administrator who served in the Union Council of Ministers from September 1985 to December, 1989; from June, 1991 to April, 1996 and again from June 1996 to March, 1998. He held important portfolios in the Union Cabinet.

Shri Arunachalam, who was an advocate and agriculturist by profession, joined politics at an early age. As a devoted social worker, he worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the downtrodden and the weaker sections of the society.

An active parliamentarian, Shri Arunachalam served as a Member of the Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation and the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During 1990-91, he was a Member of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Shri M. Arunachalam passed away on 21 January, 2004 at Chennai at the age of 60.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

11.04 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.